

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29 remain pending and Claims 30-33 have been added in the present application.

Independent Claims 1, 10 and 20 have been amended to reflect *inter alia* that the board has one row of ports staggered with respect to the other row of ports so that ports of one row are not transversely aligned with ports of the other row. Independent Claims 1, 10 and 20 further claim component sides of the storage devices facing away from each other while the non-component sides face each other. The storage devices disclosed by Fairfield and Sobolewski et al, either taken singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest component sides of the storage devices facing away from each other while the non-component sides face each other in combination with one row of ports being staggered with respect to the other row of ports so that ports of one row are not transversely aligned with ports of the other row.

Dependent Claims 30-33 have been added to further patentably define embodiments of the invention over the applied cited art. Claims 30 and 32 claim each row of ports is longitudinally aligned and ports in each row are equally spaced from each other. Claims 31 and 33 claim that each of the ports comprises a shoulder. These claimed features in combination with the claimed subject matter of their respective independent claims are not taught or suggested by Fairfield and Sobolewski et al, either taken singly or in combination.

All claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone Charles J. Kulas at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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